

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 040985
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 PM-05 NSC-05 USIA-06 OPR-02
PA-01 SS-15 SY-05 A-01 /052 R

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S/CPR:AMB.DOBELLE (SUBS)
-----043128 162039Z /70

R 161415Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 040985

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM AF/W

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PGOV, SG, US

SUBJECT:SENGHOR VISIT

1. AF/W COUNTRY OFFICER (KILLION) ATTENDED SENGHOR FOUNDATION MEETING FEBRUARY 2 FOR DISCUSSION OF NEW YORK DINNER AND OF SENGHOR ACTIVITIES. BOARD DECIDED ON JUNE 6 AS DATE FOR DINNER IN NEW YORK.
2. AMBASSADOR COULBARY AT MEETING ASSERTED THAT "DEPARTMENT OF STATE SEEKING SENGHOR OFFICIAL STATE VISIT FOR JUNE." COUNTRY OFFICER POINTED OUT THAT WE HAD ONLY PROPOSED MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT CARTER AND PRESIDENT SENGHOR, BUT THAT NO DECISIONS HAD BEEN MADE. COUNTRY OFFICER NOTED SENGHOR VISIT WOULD BE PRIVATE, NOT STATE OR OFFICIAL. COULBARY DESCRIBED TO ATTENDING BOARD MEMBERS LETTER FROM SENGHOR SAYING HE WOULD NOT MAKE VISIT WITHOUT OFFICIAL INVITATION FROM PRESIDENT CARTER. COULBARY DID, HOWEVER, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 040985

ACKNOWLEDGE THAT SENGHOR WOULD AS "COURTEOUS PERSON" ACCEPT PRESIDENT CARTER'S BID TO MEET IN WASHINGTON.

3. IN PRIVATE DISCUSSION AFTER MEETING, COULBARY TOLD COUNTRY OFFICER A SIGNIFICANT CONCERN (OTHER THAN PRESTIGE) WAS FACT THAT GOS AND HIS EMBASSY WOULD HAVE TO BUDGET FOR ALL INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER EXPENSES FOR A

PRIVATE VISIT. COULBARY ASKED COUNTRY OFFICER IF WE COULD WORK OUT A "DYNAMIC COMPROMISE" ON THESE EXPENSES IF NO STATE VISIT APPEARS LIKELY.

4. COULBARY SUBSEQUENTLY TELEPHONED COUNTRY OFFICER TO ASK THAT HE SEND "REPORT" OF COULBARY'S COMMENTS AT SENGHOR BOARD MEETING TO DAKAR, AND THAT COULBARY BE PROVIDED "COPY" OF MOOSE STATEMENT THAT WE ARE WORKING ON POSSIBLE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER DURING COURSE OF PRESIDENT SENGHOR PRIVATE VISIT. COULBARY SAID HE BELIEVED HIS GOVERNMENT STILL PROCEEDING ON ASSUMPTION OF OFFICIAL STATE VISIT INVITATION.

5. AF/W DIRECTOR LATER CALLED COULBARY TO MAKE SURE NO MISUNDERSTANDING HAD OCCURRED. COULBARY SEEMED PREPARED TO ACCEPT FACT OF PRIVATE VISIT, BUT SAID HE WAS SURE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY IN DAKAR HAD NOT YET BEGUN TO BUDGET FOR VISIT, ALL EXPENSES OF WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE BORNE BY GOS.

6. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO FIND OCCASION TO ENSURE GOS UNDERSTANDS THAT VISIT IS PRIVATE AND THAT ALL COSTS MUST BE BORNE BY GOS. VANCE

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